



# ADPA Bulletin

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Alcohol and Drug Program Administration



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## 2009 ADPA Highlights

ADPA and its community-based and public-agency partners have contributed to the County's mission to "enrich lives through effective and caring service" through the following programs:

♦ **46,218 Alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment admissions** provided by 185 community-based agencies for those in need.

♦ **Performance-Based Pilot Project.** Residential, outpatient, and nar-

## Director's Corner

Substance abuse treatment services continue to be threatened in California and, as a result, services for individuals who choose treatment over incarceration have been significantly reduced. In Los Angeles County, the impact is being felt by providers and Proposition 36 clients, as services have been drastically scaled back. However, new bills in the state Assembly could raise additional funds for addiction treatment if passed.

Administrators, professionals, and therapists in the addiction field know what substance abuse treatment and prevention can do. We have argued long and hard that treatment works and that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. ADPA, its commissions, providers, and advocates struggle to get their voices heard. Every voice of recovery needs to ring out in every corner of decision-making halls and chambers. Through voting and communicating with your legislators, you have the power to effect change in Sacramento and secure funding for substance abuse treatment. Make your voice heard: Contact your congresspersons and let them know that substance abuse treatment is important to you and that you support bills that increase funding for substance abuse treatment and prevention. Also, remember to vote on November 3. For information on measures and candidates, visit [lavote.net](http://lavote.net).

— John Viernes, Jr., Director

cotic treatment programs participated in this study that identified and gathered performance measures to support ADPA's transition to performance-based management and contracting. Early findings show that intensity of services in the first 30 days of treatment predicts better outcomes and longer length of stay.

♦ The **Adult Services Division** piloted three criminal justice programs. *The Co-Occurring Disorders Court* has an 18-month program that integrates mental health and substance abuse treatment services. *The Day Reporting Center* targets young male gang members on probation to reduce recidivism, improve public safety, and effect behavioral change. *The Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment Demonstration Project* assists offenders in reintegrating into the community by screening short-term detainees for problematic substance use and identifying individual risk factors.

♦ The **Contracts Division** has collaborated on *Project 50* (see the "ADPA News" for information), the *Leavey Center Project*, and the *Court Referral and Information Services Program (CRISP)*. The Leavey Center Project is a partnership providing health and mental health services in the Skid Row area. Private agencies and County departments collaborate in one building to provide an integrated delivery model that serves the

varied needs of indigent patients to eliminate service duplication, maximize resources, and expand current services. CRISP is a program that assists judges in referring individuals to the proper DUI programs.

♦ The **Prevention Unit** took part in press conferences on *methamphetamine awareness* and proposals on alcohol mitigation fees that would generate funds for AOD programs. The unit also helped coordinate a *Strategic Prevention Framework Regional Training* to assist counties and providers in strengthening their strategic plans.

♦ The **Planning Division** initiated provider outreach and communications activities, including the *ADPA Bulletin, Quarterly Lecture Series*, and the *Quarterly Provider meetings*.

♦ **2009-2010 Goals:** ADPA will conduct a rate study and strategic planning during FY '09-'10. The rate study will determine the most cost-effective rates for treatment service provision; findings will be incorporated into future contracts. The strategic plan will develop a framework for ADPA to improve its overall program operations, develop and implement objectives and performance measures, and more effectively implement program strategies that meet the AOD prevention and treatment needs of LA County residents.

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## SAVE THE DATE!

- **November 30-December 1 or December 2-December 3: FREE Peer-to-Peer Smoking Cessation Training.** 3530 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90010; 8:30-4:00. Register [here](http://www.primeforlife.org).
- **November 30-December 4: Prime for Life AOD Intervention/Prevention Training.** Location TBA. [www.primeforlife.org](http://www.primeforlife.org)
- **December 11: ADPA/UCLA/PSATTC Lecture Series, Feature Presentation: *The Los Angeles County Performance-Based Pilot Project*;** Alhambra Auditorium, Bldg A7; 10:00-1:00. Click [here](http://www.primeforlife.org) for past lectures.
- **January 22: Quarterly Provider meeting.** Century Sheriff's Station, Kenneth Hahn Auditorium, 11703 S. Alameda St., Lynwood 90262; 10:00-12:00.

## ADPA Staff News

♦ **Karen Ellis** replaced Joe Quick as the Manager of the Court Referral and Information Services Program (CRISP). She comes from the Court Referral for Alcohol Program at the Pomona Superior Court.

♦ **Geoffrey Mere** joined the ADPA Contracts Division as a Public Health Investigator for CRISP in West Covina. Geoffrey previously worked at Clark Seif Clark, Inc., as an Industrial Hygienist.

♦ **Sandy Song** returned to ADPA from the Contracts and Grants Department. She is working in the Adult Services and Program Development Section as an Assistant Staff Analyst.

♦ On October 13, 2009, ADPA Director, John Viernes, Jr., presented employees with a special letter of recognition and a pin for their years of County service. These were awarded to: **Thu Le**, **Lorena Craig**, and **Charles S. Jackson** (10 years); **Alex Domond** (20 years); **Etzer Charles** (25 years); **Patricia Hairston** and **Pilar Martinez** (30 years); and **Dorothy J. Jones** (35 years).

L to R: David Hoang, Alex Domond, Patricia Hairston, Thu Le, Dorothy Jones, Pilar Martinez, and John Viernes, Jr.



♦ **Joseph Quick** retired on October 9, 2009, after 32 years of County service, all of which he spent at ADPA.





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**Please consider the  
environment before printing  
this e-bulletin.**

The *ADPA Bulletin* is an electronic publication aimed at informing ADPA's network of contracted alcohol and drug treatment, prevention, and recovery service providers of relevant AOD news at the local, state, and federal levels.

To submit stories, suggestions, or comments, please write to Alexandra Bruehl at [abruehl@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:abruehl@ph.lacounty.gov)

## ADPA Collaborative Projects

♦ The **Pomona Youth and Family Master Plan** aims to improve youths' low academic achievement, involvement in destructive behaviors (particularly gang violence), and feelings of community disorganization. The Partnership behind the plan includes ADPA; the **City of Pomona**; **Pomona Unified School District**; a representative from the faith-based sector; a community activist; and various ADPA-contracted prevention, treatment, and recovery service providers. **Tri-City Mental Health Center** is providing services for individuals with co-occurring disorders.

The Partnership has established an [online family resources self-assessment and resource linkage service](#) and five community resource centers that provide information and referral services to families.

♦ ADPA's Meth Prevention Collaborative coordinated the **"Get the 411 on Meth"** countywide press event at the Asian American Drug Abuse Program in Gardena. Prevention and treatment professionals revealed the damage caused by meth abuse, particularly among young women and youth of color in urban settings. Speakers represented the **Phoenix House Foundation**, **UCLA**, and **Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science**.

## Provider News

♦ The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

## ADPA News

♦ The Los Angeles County **Productivity and Quality Awards (PQAs)** recognize the achievements of departments that create and/or participate in projects that emphasize efficiency, productivity, quality, and cost savings. ADPA received three PQAs for 2009. ADPA was recognized in the *Top Ten Award* category for **Project 50**, an intensive program focusing on the 50 most vulnerable individuals on Skid Row. Project 50 provides individuals with housing, substance abuse treatment, and mental health treatment to improve their situation and lessen their emergency care costs. This program has achieved these goals and has housed 49 of the 50 participants.

The **Los Angeles County Women's Reentry Court Program** won both the *Best Interagency Cooperation* and the *Multi-Million Dollar Club Awards*. The former recognizes the most innovative and creative cooperation between County agencies and departments; the latter is given to projects with cost savings, cost avoidance, and/or revenue greater than \$2 million. This project gives female parolees who face a new, nonviolent felony charge the opportunity to receive substance abuse treatment services in lieu of incarceration.

The *Special Merit* category honors projects that successfully fulfill departmental or County objectives. The **Adult Linkages Project**, a winner, has developed cross-departmental service delivery objectives that enhance services to indigent adults. By targeting them and the departments that serve them, the

(SAMHSA) announced that it will award more than \$28.7 million for up to three years to provide substance abuse treatment and related recovery support services to juvenile and adult offenders returning to the community from incarceration. The grants are projected to be funded up to \$400,000 per year for three years. Congratulations to **Southern California Alcohol and Drug Programs, Inc.** and **Special Services for Groups, Inc.** for their success in securing these grants!

## Local News

♦ The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (BOS) voted to merge the **Narcotic and Dangerous Drugs Commission** and the

County obtains valuable information about the extent of client overlap between departments, duplication of services, service gaps, and the cost of services.

♦ ADPA hosted a **Prevention Planning Meeting** on October 8, 2009, for ADPA contract program auditors and over 100 prevention representatives from the eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs). This meeting was held to inform providers of ADPA's plans for re-soliciting prevention contracts and to engage them in planning an effective Request for Proposal (RFP).

Dr. Jonathan Fielding, Public Health Director, encouraged attendees to use the Public Health Model and establish evidence-based approaches to address alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems through collaborations and policy development, such as increasing alcohol taxes. Proceedings from the meeting are available [here](#).

♦ On September 16-18, 2009, the ADPA Prevention team attended the **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Prevention Network Conference** in

Anaheim. The conference focused on AOD prevention theory and science; research findings and practical application; innovative approaches and emerging trends; and system partnerships, infrastructure, and policies. Dr. Qian Guo and Yolanda Cordero of ADPA's Prevention team presented a workshop titled, "Alcohol Outlets in Los Angeles County: Research to Practice." They shared key findings from research on alcohol density and locations of outlets by SPA and Supervisorial Districts, and described effective community-based and environmental strategies practiced by providers in LA County.

♦ The 2010 Los Angeles AI-Impics Host Planning Committee is holding a contest to select this year's AI-Impics Theme. The winning theme will be used on team uniforms, banners, official programs, and other event material. Entries are due by November 13, 2009. Please click [here](#) for additional details.



L to R: Tony Hill, Dr. Jonathan Fielding, Valerie Sifuentes, Yanira Lima, Jonathan Freedman, and Dr. Dawn Jacobson at the PQA Awards Luncheon

**Commission on Alcoholism** on September 29, 2009, following a recommendation by the Chief Executive Officer. Details of the merger are pending. The BOS had previously eliminated five commissions entirely.

## State News

♦ The State of California has composed a concept paper for a new **section 1115 waiver** for hospital financing and uninsured care. Please view it [here](#).

♦ Relevant bills chaptered this session include **AB 91** (establishes an ignition interlock device [IID] pilot program), **AB 750** (creates a deferred entry of judgment reentry

program), and **SB 598** (decreases the amount of time between license suspension and restriction if an IID is installed).

## Federal News

♦ The Wellstone-Domenici Mental Health Parity Act will go into effect January 1, 2010, for most insurance plans. It requires insurance plans serving over 50 people to provide mental health and substance abuse services equal to those covered for physical health. This federal law supersedes State law in states lacking parity. This includes California, as Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed the State parity bill in early October.